

August 6th 2020 Catherine McCabe, Commissioner NJ Department of Environmental Protection PO Box 402 Trenton, NJ 08625-0402

Re: 2019 Clean Water Council Public Hearing, "Using Stormwater Utilities to Address Water Quality and Flooding"

Dear Commissioner McCabe;

Enclosed please find a summary of the 2019 NJ Clean Water Council Public Hearing entitled, "Using Stormwater Utilities to Address Water Quality and Flooding". The hearing was well attended with approximately 80 folks in attendance. Also in this transmittal are comments received as well as a transcript of the event.

We had speakers from New Jersey as well as from other states who explained how they were able to establish and operate a Stormwater Utility and the benefit it offered to their community. Not many comments were received but the ones we heard were favorable to the concept of creating such a utility, and these verbal comments are within the transcript. One municipality did express concern over the fee structure, (comment enclosed). We believe the lack of comment stems from the fact that this is a new initiative and most did not understand how one might operate or they were taking a wait and see attitude. The presentations by the speakers did highlight the benefits associated and the attendees responded favorably to what was being offered.

As I'm sure you understand, this has been a difficult year for the Council, after our February meeting the Council was sidelined until our June meeting due to the Covid-19 virus. Your Department has done a great job in assisting the Council by setting up virtual meeting opportunities for us so that we may continue. A big thank you to you and the Department for such assistance.

If you should have any questions or wish to meet to discuss the Hearing or how the Clean Water Council can assist the Department as we go forward, please let us know and we can set up a time to discuss, I assume a virtual meeting.

Sincerely submitted;

Anthony V. McCracken Sr.; Chairman New Jersey Clean Water Council.

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